7. (Amended) The apparatus of ~~An actuator according to~~ claim 6, wherein the deformable member is a leaf spring.

8. (Amended) The apparatus of ~~An actuator according to~~ claim 6, wherein the tendon passes through a guide member fixed to one of the first end and the ~~or~~ second end of the deformable member.

9. (Amended) The apparatus of ~~An actuator according to~~ claim 6, wherein the deformable member is ~~capable of providing~~ configured to provide a controllable kinesthetic force ~~to the user~~.

10. (Amended) The apparatus of ~~An actuator according to~~ claim 6, wherein the deformable member is ~~capable of providing~~ configured to provide a tactile sensation ~~to the user~~.

11-25. (withdrawn)

26. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

an actuator; and

a forcing mechanism coupled to the actuator, the forcing mechanism positionable on a support surface defining a plane, the forcing mechanism including:

a contact surface;

means for moving the contact surface in a direction having at least one component outside of the plane defined by the support surface in response to the actuator.

27. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the contact surface is attached to a flexible member.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a tendon attached to an extremity of the contact surface.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a piston.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a threaded rod.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a cam.

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes a telescoping member.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the means for moving includes an inflatable member.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the contact surface includes a multi-point contact surface.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising:

means for securing the contact surface to an object able to receive the feedback force.

36. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the contact surface includes a contact surface defining an opening to at least partially enclose an object able to receive the feedback force.

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the means for moving includes a plurality of finger forcing mechanisms.

38. (New) A method, comprising:

receiving from a computer a signal associated with a user interface associated with the computer;

moving a contact surface of a forcing mechanism in a direction having at least one component outside the plane of a support surface configured to support the forcing mechanism, the moving being associated with the received signal; and

transmitting information to the computer from the forcing mechanism regarding the moving of the contact surface of the forcing mechanism.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the receiving includes receiving a signal from the computer associated with a placement of an icon within the user interface.

40. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the moving is further based on calculations performed by the computer in response to the information transmitted to the computer.